

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LONDON 07480 111856Z  
ACTION EUR-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-14 NSC-06 INR-05 CIAE-00 NSAE-00  
PM-03 L-01 TRSE-00 SP-02 PA-01 ACDA-10 /051 W  
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R 111844Z MAY 78  
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6048  
SECDEF WASHDC  
INFO USMISSION USNATO  
USNMR SHAPE  
USCINCEUR  
USDOCOSOUTH  
CINCLANT  
USLOSACLANT

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 07480

DEFENSE ALSO FOR AMB. KOMER AND ASD/ISA MC GIFFERT

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1  
TAGS: NATO MPOL UK  
SUBJECT: LONG-TERM DEFENSE PROGRAM

REF: STATE 119858

1. DRAWING ON GUIDANCE PROVIDED BY REFTTEL, POL-MIL  
ATTACHE PRESSED FORCEFULLY ON QUINLAN, DUS, MOD, OUR  
HOPE THAT UK WOULD GIVE EARLY SUPPORT TO OUR EFFORT TO  
REDUCE FOOTNOTES AND BRACKETS IN LTDP REPORT. QUINLAN  
SAID HE WILL INSTRUCT PETERS TO GIVE UK SUPPORT TO OUR  
LEAD AMONG DELEGATIONS IN BRUSSELS. AS FAR AS CAPITALS  
ARE CONCERNED, QUINLAN DOUBTED WHETHER HMG WOULD BE  
PREPARED TO WEIGH-IN, OBSERVING THAT MULLEY HAS UNDER-  
TAKEN TO GIVE LEAD-IN TALK ON LTDP AT THE EUROGROUP  
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PAGE 02 LONDON 07480 111856Z

MEETING ON 17 MAY. WE NOTED THAT THAT IS ONLY ONE DAY  
BEFORE START OF DPC AND THAT IT DOES NOT GIVE MUCH TIME  
FOR NOTIFICATION TO THE SYG OF RESERVATIONS WITHDRAWN  
BEFORE MINISTERIAL DISCUSSION AT THE DPC. QUINLAN TOOK  
THE POINT AND SAID HE WOULD TALK IT OVER WITH FCO.

2. IN ABSENCE OF FCO DEPUTY PUS DUFF, DCM ALSO

FOLLOWED-UP WITH FCO ASST. UNDERSECRETARY MOBERLY, STRESSING IMPORTANCE OF REDUCING BRACKETS TO MAXIMUM POSSIBLE EFFECT. MOBERLY AGREED BUT, LIKE QUINLAN, NOTED THAT SOME UK POINTS WARRANTED DISCUSSION BY MINISTERS AND WOULD TAKE HARD BARGAINING. HE SAID HE WAS SURE UK WOULD JOIN IN US EFFORT TO REDUCE NUMBER OF RESERVATIONS IMPOSED BY OTHERS. HE STRONGLY APPLAUDED LTDP, AND SAID THE PRIME MINISTER HAD MADE IT CLEAR THAT UK WANTED THE LTDP TO BE A RESOUNDING SUCCESS.

3. CONCERNING THE UK COUNT OF FOUR FOOTNOTES AND BRACKETS, QUINLAN PROMISED ONE MORE LOOK AT UK RESERVATIONS, NOTING THAT THEY WOULD BE DISCUSSED WITH MULLEY EARLY NEXT WEEK. BUT QUINLAN THINKS THE UK HAS ALREADY GOT ITS RESERVATIONS TO AN "IRREDUCIBLE MINIMUM", SINCE THREE OF THE FOUR TOUCH ON MATTERS OF SUBSTANCE ON WHICH HMG WILL NOT BUDGE WITHOUT NEGOTIATION. HE SAID HE ASSUMED WE WOULD HAVE A NUMBER OF RESERVATIONS ON WHICH WE WERE UNLIKELY TO BUDGE, TOO.

4. MULLEY'S LINE AT EUROGROUP SESSION, QUINLAN SAID, WILL BE THAT THE EUROPEANS COLLECTIVELY MUST ENSURE THAT THE SUMMIT IS A SUCCESS AND THAT STEMMING FROM IT THERE SHOULD BE ENOUGH SOLID POLITICAL MOMENTUM TO GIVE CLEAR DIRECTION FOR THE ALLIANCE'S DEFENSE PROGRAMS INTO THE FUTURE. MULLEY BELIEVES IT IS IMPORTANT THAT

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 LONDON 07480 111856Z

THE SUMMIT CLEARLY IDENTIFY THE MAJOR PROGRAMS.

5. FACER, IN A SEPARATE CONVERSATION, SAID MULLEY WILL URGE EUROPEAN SUPPORT FOR THE "COMMON WEAPONS FAMILIES" APPROACH. HE CONSIDERS THE APPROACH TO HAVE REAL PROMISE BUT BELIEVES IT IS STILL TOO EARLY, EVEN WITH THE BEST WILL IN THE WORLD, TO ANTICIPATE ANYTHING MORE THAN A VERY FEW FIRM COMMITMENTS EMERGING IN THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE.

6. TURNING TO THE ISSUE OF THE FUNDING FOR THE FORWARD DEPLOYMENT OF THE DUTCH BRIGADE -- WHICH MULLEY WISHES TO TAKE UP IN THE MARGINS OF THE DPC -- THE BRITISH BELIEVE THE RESPONSIBILITY IS IN PRINCIPLE A DUTCH ONE. IN ANY EVENT, THEY ARE PREPARED, PROVIDED OTHER ALLIES AGREE, TO SEE WHAT COULD BE DONE THROUGH THE COMMON INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM. AS FAR AS DIRECT UK FINANCIAL SUPPORT IS CONCERNED, MULLEY BELIEVES HE WILL HAVE GREAT DIFFICULTY GETTING SUPPORT IN PARLIAMENT AS WELL AS IN OVERCOMING OPPOSITION IN THE CABINET AND THE TREASURY.

BREWSTER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 11 may 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
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**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
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**TAGS:** MPOL, MORG, UK, NATO  
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